



16721

NMC Policy Ltr No. 13-98

August 18, 1998

From: Commanding Officer, National Maritime Center

To: Distribution

Subj: ENDORSEMENT FORMS ISSUED TO QUALIFIED RATINGS UNDER THE  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION,  
AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, 1978, AS AMENDED (STCW)

Ref: (a) Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations (46 CFR), Section 12.05-7(a)(5)  
(b) 46 CFR 12.10-5 (d)  
(c) 46 CFR 12.15-3 (e)

1. The references indicate that qualified ratings, i.e., able seamen, qualified members of the engine department, and lifeboatmen, who apply for STCW endorsement forms must meet all applicable requirements of either STCW regulation II/4, III/4, or VI/2.
2. Qualified ratings who are issued their ratings before 1 February 2002 based on service or training that began before 1 August 1998 are not required to provide any special proof of competence to show they meet STCW regulation II/4, III/4 or VI/2, whichever apply. If the STCW form is issued under the 1978 Convention, the form will expire on 31 January 2002. If the form is to be issued under the 1995 amendments to the Convention, the mariner must provide acceptable evidence of having completed the four elements of basic safety training (STCW Regulation VI/1).
3. The regulations as written apply in full to any applicant for a qualified rating who either:
  - a. Begins his/her service or training that leads to the qualified rating after 31 July 1998; or
  - b. Who qualifies for the rating after 31 January 2002.

The mariners noted in this paragraph must also meet the full requirements for having been trained and/or assessed as meeting all competencies of the four elements of basic safety training.

W. C. BENNETT  
By direction

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